

C O N N E C T I O N

Your Source for Employee Information



Courthouse Bridge?

Workers brave some cold north winds as two cranes set down a 1929 iron bridge over the creek bed between the Courthouse and the Administration building on Dec. 5. The bridge will be used to connect a walking trail planned to snake through the main campus.

Benefit Changes

Retirement Plan switches to constant contribution

In a 5-0 vote on Nov. 25, Commissioners Court officially adopted a policy setting a constant employer contribution rate to the employee retirement plan.

The new policy fixes the county's Texas County and District Retirement System (TCDRS) contribution to 8 percent of the county's payroll.

Previously, the employer contribution rate varied year to year based upon market returns.

As of December 2014, Collin County's TCDRS retirement plan with TCDRS contains more than \$331 million as of November, and is 100-percent funded.

Here is what hasn't changed:

- ◆ The Texas County and District Retirement System (TCDRS) will continue to manage retirement funds;
- ◆ The 2-to-1 employer match for 2014 remains intact;
- ◆ The employee contribution rate remains at 7 percent for 2014;
- ◆ The 7% interest earnings rate on employee contributions is unchanged.

Here's what changes:

- ◆ The employer match and employee contribution rate for 2015 and beyond will be subject to change based upon market conditions. This could come in the form of the match ratio or the employee contribution rate.
- ◆ The county and employees will now share the risk of major downturns in the market; however, surplus earnings will go toward covering any market losses to the plan in the future

During discussions in the Nov. 25 meeting, it was noted that the plan could change any year by a simple vote of the Commissioners Court.



Don't forget to check your W-2

The last pay period of 2013 is just around the corner, and the folks in Human Resources want to remind all employees to double-check that their addresses are current so they can receive their W-2's on time for the tax season.

If you have both a mailing address and a home address, *PeopleSoft* will select the mailing address. Please make any necessary updates before Dec. 31.

Any changes made after this date may cause a delay in postal delivery to you.

Duplicate W-2 requests will not be produced, you will have access to print your W-2 on or after Jan. 31, 2014.

You can access your address information and make changes by going to:

- ◆ PeopleSoft > Self Service > Personal Information > Personal Information Summary
- ◆ Scroll down to the button that says "Change home/mailling addresses".
- ◆ Click on "Edit" and make your changes
- ◆ Click "Save" In addition, please verify that your name and social security number is an exact match to your social security card. (This information can be seen in Self Service -> Personal Information -> Personal Information Summary).

This is for tax reporting purposes. If you need to change these items, please contact Human Resources at Ext. 4717 or 4606.

Bad Weather service can save you an icy commute

Winter weather has already hit us once, triggering one closing and a delayed opening from early December's ice storm.

If you haven't signed up for this optional callout service, you could spare yourself a lot of searching to find out whether we're going to be open or not. And, if you're new to the county or might have changed phone numbers in the past few months, it might be worth checking up on.

Here's how to do it:

- ◆ Logon to *PeopleSoft* and click on your Personal Information in the Self Service area of the software.
- ◆ Under Phone Numbers, check the number that corresponds with "Code Red";
- ◆ Make sure the format is: xxx/xxx-xxxx; if it's not entered correctly, the computer will not call you.
- ◆ If you're new – or need to change your number – click on "Change Phone Numbers";
- ◆ You can delete an old or incorrect number, or pick Code Red from the pull-down menu to add a new number. Remember, enter the number in the correct format or you won't get called: xxx/xxx-xxxx.
- ◆ Save the file. You're done.



So you know, some telephone services may block these pre-dawn calls as protection against telemarketers. We can't do anything about that.

You don't want to wait to register until the night before an ice storm; you won't get a call. The instructions are also posted on MyCollinCounty.



Mark Reid appointed as Precinct 1's new County Commissioner

Plano resident and business owner Mark REID has been appointed County Commissioner for Precinct 1, County Judge Keith SELF announced in early December.

Reid, an industrial engineer and owner of IDEA Construction in Richardson, replaces **Matt SHAHEEN**, who resigned Dec. 3 to run for state office.

Commissioner Reid, who has served on the County Planning Commission since 2011, will represent parts of Plano, Frisco and northeast Collin County until November 2014, and then run in a special election to decide who will complete the remaining two years of Mr. Shaheen's current four-year term.

Married for 33 years, Commissioner Reid and his wife, Janis, have two grown children. He is an active member of Christ United Methodist Church in Plano, and has more than 30 years of construction-related experience in industrial engineering and construction.



Facilities Maintenance recognizes some milestones

David Rogers:

20 Years of Service

David ROGERS marks 20 years of service for Collin County. During his tenure, he has worked in almost every area of Facilities Maintenance, starting as a Facilities Maintenance Technician and later taking



a Control Room Operator position. Later, David accepted a newly created position of Computer Aided Design Operator, which he holds to this day.

As the C.A.D. Operator, he updates and maintains all County building plans. David works with architects, engineers, contractors and municipal staff who often contact him for current and reliable information.

He is also responsible for designing in-house renovations and maintains an active involvement throughout the project to assure the County needs are met, such as the Homeland Security Offices and the IOC Room, the District Attorney's Offices and the additional space at the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program Facility which houses the Engineering and Fire Marshal's Departments.

David's responsibilities are not only CAD related but reach far beyond.

He has overseen these special projects: a \$7 million dollar energy cost reduction project – HVAC, lighting retrofits and faucet retrofits with the Siemens Group; the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant parking lot lighting project; and the Central Plant Optimization Project for energy cost reduction by cutting the use of heating and cooling systems.

David is also the supervisor of the parts specialist and housekeeping coordinator.

This entails ensuring that the Facilities Maintenance and Housekeeping assets, inventory and equipment are used and maintained in accordance with the County guidelines, and monitors the housekeeping contract specifications and schedules. Congratulations, David.

Michael Mosier:

20 years of service

Michael MOSIER received his 20-year service pin in October. He started his employment with Collin County in the Central Supply Department in 1993, and moved to the Facilities Maintenance Department in 1996 as a Control Room Operator.

In February 2006, Michael was promoted to Parts Specialist and still holds that position today.



He is responsible for the Facilities Maintenance and Housekeeping assets such as tools, inventory and equipment.

Michael has been married to his wife Christy for 21 years and they have two children. He and his family are active supporters of their community and church, and his hobbies are his family. Congratulations, Michael.

George King promoted

George KING, Control Room Operator at the Central Plant, was recently promoted by Facilities Director Dan JAMES to the newly created position of Utility Manager due to his vast



George KING (left) and Dan JAMES.

knowledge of the Energy Management Systems and the energy conservation programs.

He began his career with Collin County Facilities Maintenance in August 2005.

His new responsibilities include utility billing and meter monitoring of emissions and kilowatt usage, maintain accurate records to meet state requirements, monitor optimization of chillers, pumps and VAV boxes, identify and manage opportunities to receive incentives or grants related to energy management.

He also maintains accurate records of revenues generated by the energy consumption reduction programs such as ERS – Emergency Response Service, CLM – Commercial Load Management and 4CP – 4 Coincident Peak, the four-month reporting period from June to September.

Due to his diligence, Collin County is meeting mandates to reduce energy consumption. Congratulations, George.



Community Supervision & Corrections Dept.



Gloria BAILEY, Administrative Manager, McKinney, 35 years;

Shannon CRIGER, Accounting Tech, McKinney, 30 years;

Robert NICHOLSON, Probation Officer, McKinney, 30 years;

Cindy POWELL, Lead Clerk, McKinney, 20 years;

Regina DOBECKA, Secretary, McKinney, 15 years;

Alan FRAZIER, Probation Officer, McKinney, 15 years;

Billy LONG, Supervision Officer, MCKINNEY, 10 Years;

Julia ELLIOT, Supervision Officer, MCKINNEY, 5 years;

Amy FRAZIER, Caseworker, MCKINNEY, 5 years;

Mark GROSS, Supervision Officer, McKinney, 5 years;

Armando JIMENEZ, Supervision Officer, Plano, 5 years;

Joel THOMAS, Supervision Officer, Plano, 5 years.



Auditor's Office

County Auditor **Jeff MAY** awarded **Kathy MOSS**, internal auditor, her 10-year service pin during Commissioners Court in November.



County Court at Law No. 6

Stephanie ABLES (above left) received her 5-year service pin from Judge **Jay BENDER**.



District Clerk's Office

New staff members who recently joined the District Clerk's Office, are (l-r): **Zonia MINARJES**, **Valerie McCUTCHEN** and **Renee SIMS**.

District Attorney's Office

Prosecutor **Gail LEYKO** was awarded her 20-year service pin by Criminal District Attorney **Greg WILLIS** during Commissioners Court in early November. Gail is the Chief Felony Prosecutor for the Grand Jury and Intake Division, overseeing about 15,000 criminal cases coming into the DA's office each year from local law enforcement agencies.



Tax Office

In Plano, left, back row, (l-r), **Diane FISHER**, 10 years; **Kenneth L. MAUN**; **Shannon UTLEY**, 10 years; front row, (l-r): **Vanessa MURAVIOV**, 5 years.

In McKinney, below left, back row (l-r), **Katina COLE**, 15 years; **Angela SPEER**, 15 years; **Kenneth L. MAUN**, Tax Assessor-Collector; **Martha HARPOLE**, 10 years; **Lorrie RICHTER**, 10 years; **Diane SHUMWAY**, 20 years; front row, (l-r): **Dea-Lynn ISAACS**, 10 years; **Jayna DEAN**, 5 years; **Sherry DAVIS**, 10 years; **Tara HEFFNER**, 5 years.



Connection Submissions

Send your Connection articles and photos, wants ads and announcements to publicrelations@collincountytexas.gov. We print every other month, and post submission deadlines on the MYCC calendar.

When sending photos, please make sure they are attached to your email — and large enough to print. No matter how nice they may look on a cell phone, they need to be at least 100 Kb or larger to print out nicely on paper.

Next edition: late January 2014



Healthcare, WIC ready to fight

Staff members from HealthCare Services and WIC show their support in October for the fight against breast cancer.

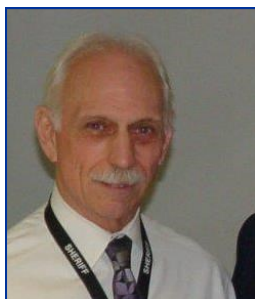


Charity golf tourney delivers again

Sheriff **Terry BOX** (left) presented checks totaling \$125,000 to representatives to Collin County charities from the proceeds of the 21st *Sheriff Box Shoot-Out "Fore" Kids* golf tournament. Pictured next to the sheriff are, (l-r) **Carolyn RICE** of the Wellness Center, **Susan ETHERIDGE** with CASA, **Mary CORTEZ** of Children's Advocacy Center, and **Sy SHAHID** of the Heard Natural Science Museum.

5 CCSO Employees retire in November

Five employees retired this fall from the Sheriff's Office. A reception in mid-November honored Sgt. **Ron JAMES**, **Jackie COSPER**, **Donald PARTRIDGE**, and **Alice MERVICKER**. Later in the month and in a separate ceremony, **Lana GONZALES** received her retirement plaque from Sheriff Box.



Ron JAMES



Jackie COSPER



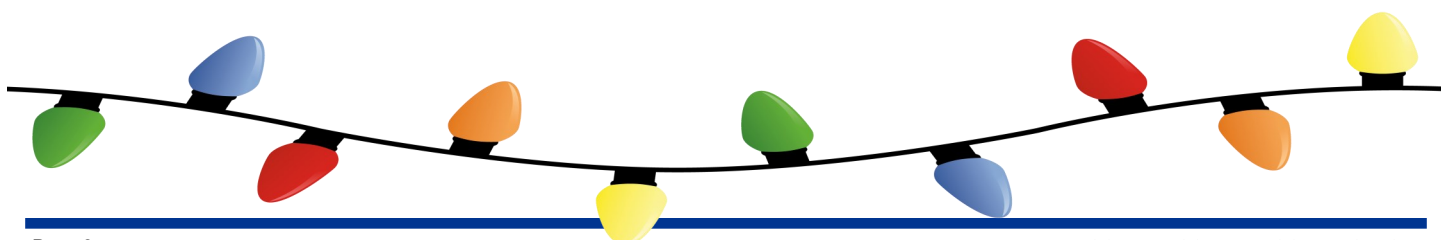
Lana GONZALES



Alice MERVICKER



Donald PARTRIDGE





Service Anniversaries



Lt. **John NORTON** (above left) was honored for 30 years of dedicated service with the Collin County Sheriff's Office.

Lt. **Matt BARR** was honored for 20 years of dedicated service with the Collin County Sheriff's Office.

Recently sworn in: Reserve Deputies **Kyle STRICKLAND** (left) and **Jacob DUDLEY**.



Promotions



Deputies **Andrew HATCH** (above left) and **Terry TOYE** (above right) have recently received promotions to Sergeant. Toye is now a Patrol Sergeant and Hatch has moved to the position of CIS Sergeant. Detention Officer **Matthew McCLELLAN** (right) has received promotion to Jail Case Officer.



Sheriff **Terry BOX** (far left) swears in three new Transfer Deputies during a recent ceremony: (l-r) **Ashley HULON**, **Paige GUINN**, and **Robert GEORGE**.



Spooky Collection

Strange to see Halloween photos in mid-December, we know. But Collin County employees have traditionally done a bang-up job on their costumes, and this year's no different. The top left photo montage includes (l-r) a prisoner-striped **Jeff MAY** and **Jerry HIGGINS** (Auditor's Office) as *Fred Flintstone*, accompanied by Viking **Bret FENSTER** of IT's GIS group. To the left, some of the Human Resources staff stand still for a photo just before the office went out to lunch, all dressed as witches. For more photos, check out MyCollinCounty's collection from the Public Information Office page.



CLASSIFIEDS

FREE DOG: Looking for a good home for a female (spayed, house broken) small dog. The vet said she is a blue heeler. She is tan colored, and very affectionate. Someone dropped her off at my house, but I already have three dogs. Please contact **Mack LaFON** at (214) 551-1780 or E-mail at Clafon@collin.co.tx.us.

FURNITURE: Solid wood dining table with additional leaf



and six chairs. Recently refinished. Excellent condition. Asking \$500. Contact Tara at Theffner@co.collin.tx.us or 518-466-5462 (call or text).

WREATHS: Holidays, Sports, Any Reason, Burlap. Please visit – www.etsy.com and search clancyart. If you see something you are interested in, please contact **Melinda CLANCY** at Ext. 4196.

